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C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 000075

SIPDIS

STATE FOR EB A/W WAYNE, EB/ESC/TFS JSALOOM, NEA/ARPI RSMYTH
TREASURY FOR U/S LEVEY, PHEFFERNAN, RLEBENSON
FBI FOR FWAUKURT, JHERRING
CIA FOR CTC/FINO
DHS FOR DHS/ICE, FINANCIAL AND TRADE INVESTIGATIONS
KDELLACOLI

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/07/2015

TAGS: [PTER](#) [EFIN](#) [SNAR](#) [KTFN](#) [AE](#)

SUBJECT: UAE JTFCC: INTERAGENCY PARTICIPATION NEEDED

REF: A. ABU DHABI 00071

[B](#). SECSTATE 1287

Classified By: Ambassador Michele J. Sison, for reasons 1.4 b and d.

[1](#)1. (U) This cable contains an action request. See para 5.

[1](#)2. (C) As the U.S. and the UAE prepare to launch the Joint Terrorist Financing Coordinating Committee (JTFCC), Embassy is concerned that the only confirmed agency with Washington participation is the Department of Treasury. In order for the UAEG to field the appropriate players, it is essential that the U.S. be represented by an interagency team. The JTFCC proposal, as cleared by the interagency and approved by the PCC, states that the U.S. team will include Washington participants from FBI, SIMO, Treasury, DOJ, and DHS/ICE. The UAE is in the process of selecting participants for the inaugural meeting, and the UAE Foreign Ministry and the Central Bank have asked who will be coming from Washington. We need to be able to tell them that this will truly be an interagency exercise. (Note: In addition to the January 24th JTFCC meeting in Abu Dhabi, there will be substantive bilateral meetings in Dubai on January 25th, and the entire delegation will participate in these meetings. End note.)

[1](#)3. (C) Embassy's LEGAT, SIMO, and DHS/ICE offices have contacted their respective organizations to request they send senior-level representatives familiar with terror finance issues in the Gulf. DHS/ICE Financial and Trade Investigations Division agreed to send a representative, although they are in the process of working out some scheduling conflicts for the January 24th meeting. DHS/ICE has committed to being an ongoing participant in all future JTFCC meetings.

[1](#)4. (C) On January 6, 2006, Ambassador and visiting Assistant Secretary for Economic and Business Affairs Tony Wayne

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discussed the upcoming Joint Terrorist Financing Coordinating Committee (JTFCC) with UAE Minister of Information and Culture Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed al Nahyan, and separately with Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Sheikh Hamdan bin Zayed al Nahyan and UAE Prime Minister and Vice President Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid (ref A). During the meeting with Abdullah, Ambassador passed the proposed agenda (ref B) and requested the UAE's thoughts on suggested agenda items. Ambassador also provided the proposed agenda to Central Bank Governor Sultan Nasser al Suweidi. Embassy will forward any UAEG-proposed agenda items upon receipt.

[1](#)5. (C) Action request for EB/ESC/TFS. Please forward to Embassy the names and titles of interagency participants for the JTFCC by January 13, 2006. Embassy will notify the Foreign Ministry and Central Bank so that they can put together the appropriate UAE team.

SISON